



Carolina Telephone
Centel-North Carolina
Centel-Virginia
United Telephone-Southeast

James B. Wright
Senior Attorney

January 3, 2001

Mr. David Waddell, Executive Secretary
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Re: Docket No. 97-00409: All Telephone Companies Tariff Filings
Regarding Reclassification of Pay Telephone Service.
UTSE Response to BellSouth Petition for Stay

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Pursuant to the December 28, 2001, Notice of Filing issued in the above docket, the following is United Telephone-Southeast, Inc.'s ("United") Response to the BellSouth Petition for Stay.

United fully supports the Petition for stay for the reasons set forth in the Petition. In addition, the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's ("TRA") deliberations at the December 19, 2000 Director's Conference included a decision that BellSouth's approved pay phone rates were adopted as interim rates for United until permanent rates for United were later approved (Conference Transcript at page 19, line 8). In the event the TRA approves the stay, the basis for the interim United rates (the BellSouth rates), would no longer be applicable or in effect. Accordingly, in such event, United asks that the TRA's decision with respect to United be stayed as well, and that United be authorized to again charge the rates previously approved for United in this case.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

James B. Wright /sm

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Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record

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